

My name is Jo Anne Bass and my address is 16205 Hwy. 98 N., Okeechobee, Florida.

I am a Farm Wife, Realtor, mother of four grown and nine grandchildren and most definitely a CONSUMER!

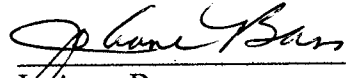
I really want to know the source of the food products which we consume and under what conditions they are grown and inspected. Did the ground beef come into this country as boxed beef from some third world country with little to no sanitation regulations? Were the fruits and vegetables sprayed with insecticides which have been outlawed in the U. S?

The consumers of today have become more sophisticated and selective of the food which they put on their dinner table, hence the popularity of organically grown foods.

I do hope that the Country of Origin Labeling can be made as non-burdensome as possible to the participants, but it is very important that it be implemented on schedule.

Thank you.

May 14, 2003


Jo Anne Bass